

# NEWS

U.S. SENATOR BARRY GOLDWATER/ARIZONA



PRESS RELEASE  
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## SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

### HEARING ON BOLAND AMENDMENT

There has been a good deal of confusion and misinterpretation in the press recently regarding the issue of whether or not the CIA is operating within the constraints of the law. In particular, this confusion seems to arise within the context of alleged covert action activities directed against the Marxist-inspired Sandinista government in Nicaragua.

As Chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, I called for a full Committee hearing today to hear about this issue. Our witnesses included, but were not limited to, Mr. William J. Casey, Director of Central Intelligence; Mr. John N. McMahon, Deputy Director of Central Intelligence; Mr. Stanley Sporkin, General Counsel of CIA; Ambassador Thomas O. Enders, Assistant Secretary of the Bureau of Inter-American Affairs; and numerous other high-ranking officials of the Intelligence Community and the Department of State. The hearing lasted from 11:00 a.m. this morning until approximately 1:00 p.m. this afternoon, and provided us with a complete update on material presented at a previous full Committee hearing in February 1983 on the same subject.

The statute in question is the Boland Amendment which was enacted last year. This Amendment to the Continuing Resolution states the following:

"None of the funds provided in this Act may be used by the Central Intelligence Agency or the Department of Defense to furnish military equipment, military training or advice, or other support for military activities, for the purpose of overthrowing the government of Nicaragua or provoking a military exchange between Nicaragua and Honduras."

Thus, a key element of this law relates to the purpose of the U.S. Government and not to the expressed purpose of the recipients of any such support.

In my judgment, the Senate Intelligence Committee has been kept fully and currently informed of all U.S. Government activities involving Nicaragua. I am convinced that no such activities are being undertaken by the U.S. Government for the purpose of overthrowing the government of Nicaragua or for provoking a military exchange between Nicaragua and Honduras.

The Director of Central Intelligence has reconfirmed this to me today, and I am satisfied that the Agency is not violating the letter or the spirit of the Boland Amendment.

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